

The Board of Selectmen held the Precincts 5 & 7 Neighborhood Meeting on September 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m., at the Endicott Estate, 656 East Street, Dedham, Massachusetts. Present were:

Sarah E. MacDonald  
James A. MacDonald  
Carmen Dellolacono  
Michael L. Butler  
Paul A. Reynolds

Department Heads Present were: William G. Keegan, Town Administrator, Nancy A. Baker, Asst. Town Administrator, Fire Chief William Cullinane, Police Chief Michael D'Entremont, David Field, Director of Engineering, Joseph Flanagan, DPW Director, Mariellen Murphy, Finance Director, Cathy Cardinale, Health Director, Virginia LeClair, Environmental Coordinator, Laura Leventhal, COA Director and Karen O'Connell, Economic Development Director.

Ms. MacDonald called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Keegan introduced the Department Heads that were in attendance to the audience and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mr. Keegan went on to say that they will try to respond to all of the questions this evening. Additionally, he suggested residents communicate to him and other departments via e-mail, phone calls and visits. Mr. Keegan commented that he appreciates and enjoys input from the Neighborhood Meetings. Mr. Keegan opened up the meeting to the audience and asked if they had questions and/or concerns.

The following residents had questions and/or concerns:

Joe & Lora Lazzaro, 1002 East Street Residents—Mr. & Mrs. Lazzaro had concerns relative to the traffic on East Street, especially truck traffic. The Lazzaros commented that problems have increased since the Milton Truck Ban. Additionally issues were speed of the vehicles and loud noise from manhole covers. Mr. & Mrs. Lazzaro felt that East Street did not warrant this type of traffic.

Mr. Keegan informed the Lazzaros that the manhole covers were raised on East Street for the overlay. Mr. Field added that this temporary. Mr. Lazzaro commented that the manhole covers are worn down and some should be replaced. Mr. Field informed him that he will look at the manholes that have problems. Mr. Flanagan added that NSTAR will also take a look at the manholes and replace the ones that are old with new.

Chief D'Entremont informed Mr. & Mrs. Lazzaro that he will assign officers to East Street to assess the traffic and speed. Additionally, he will ask them to keep an eye on the traffic, especially trucks that might be speeding. Chief will contact the State with truck issues-- overloads and condition of the trucks.

Dorothy Vittoria, Manor Resident—Ms. Vittoria voiced her concerns relative to the numerous tractor trailer trucks travelling down Sprague Street, especially when the trucks pass the Capen School area.

John Caruso, 1163 East Street Resident—Mr. Caruso stated that he asked that the trucks be checked six months ago. Additionally, he counted twenty-three trucks that passed his home today—his observation was that they were uncovered and overloaded. Mr. Caruso informed the Board that his home shakes when the trucks pass his home—he is considering installing a camcorder at the end of his property.

Mr. Caruso went on to say that he has issues with the Dedham Police Department. He mentioned that an officer who answered his telephone call on the non-emergency line was not responsive and hung up on him. Mr. Caruso felt that the Police Department did not care about his end of East Street. His concerns were as follows: Truck traffic, Overloaded Trucks and the non-responsive actions of the Police Department relative to his call.

Mike McShea, East Street Resident, asked the staff the status of the proposed legislation relative to East Street and if any action was taken. Mr. Keegan informed him that action was taken-- legislation was filed relative to a Truck Ban on East Street. Ms. MacDonald added that the legislation was, in fact, filed; however, it did not move in the house. She went on to say that East Street is a major roadway through the Town and it is difficult to obtain a ban through legislation. Ms. MacDonald informed all that the Board will look at the Town of Milton's Ban and situation on Route 138.

Joseph Yarosz, 144 Bonham Road Resident—Mr. Yarosz asked the Engineering/DPW Staff when Bonham Road will be resurfaced. Mr. Flanagan responded—Sherman Road to Trenton Road is scheduled for July, 2011. Mr. Yarosz went on to say that there is a low indentation in front of his home, into his driveway, that fills up with water during the winter months. Mr. Yarosz explained that he has issues with his sight and cannot see black ice. Additionally, he has fallen and needs to be careful. Mr. Yarosz asked if the DPW could do a temporary patch to solve the elevation issue. Mr. Flanagan informed him that he will visit his home tomorrow to look at his situation.

Mr. Keegan explained the Pavement Management Plan to all and how the process analyses and prioritizes the streets. Mr. Keegan went on to say that the program is very successful and it is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year. Mr. Keegan informed all that some streets take longer than others; however, there is a system. Mr. Field added that it is an open process and suggested that he view the status of the program on the Town's Website.

Tony Cibotti, Sherman Road Resident—asked the DPW Director if all of the trees are planted on Sherman Road. Mr. Cibotti went on to say that his home is on the corner of Tyler and Sherman and the sidewalk in the front of his residence is all torn up and looks terrible.. Mr. Cibotti informed Mr. Flanagan that initially, two trees were planted in this area; however, they have since been taken away. He asked that the area be repaired and the trees be replanted. Mr. Flanagan stated that there was some confusion relative to this area; however, the trees will be planted and loam will be placed down.

Ann McMurray, 19 Hillsdale Road Resident—Informed Mr. Flanagan that the trees on her street have been uprooted on the sidewalks. She went on to say that this area is large and there is no sidewalk access. Mr. Flanagan informed her that there are no present plans for sidewalks on Hillsdale Road. He went on to say that often the arborist will shim the area or sometimes remove the trees so that the roots are freed. Mr. Keegan added that they are trying to obtain funds for sidewalks; however, it depends on the project.

Tom Brock, Lancaster Road Resident—Mr. Brock brought to the staff's attention that he has issues with two abandoned houses on his street, one property owes over \$75,000.00 in taxes—he asked why the Town allows property to be abandoned without collecting taxes due to the Town. Mr. Brock went on to say that the other house is a dumping ground for kids with beer, trash, etc. Additionally, there is a family of cats living in one of the houses.

In responses to payment of taxes, Ms. Murphy informed him that the Tax Collector, Robin Reyes, has auctioned property off in the past--this is an on-going program each spring. She commented that the process to do research, etc., relative to property is extensive. Mr. Keegan assured Mr. Brock that he will make sure that the properties are secured going forward. He asked Mr. Cimeno and Ms. Cardinale to check out both properties to make sure that they are safe, secured and without health hazards. Mr. Keegan informed Mr. Brock that he will check out 64 Lancaster Road tomorrow. Mr. Cimeno informed Mr. Brock that he has been in touch with the daughter of the property owner located at 54 Lancaster Road over the winter and that her plans are to market the property in the spring time. Mr. Cimeno asked Mr. Brock to contact him with any additional information he might have relative to the Lancaster Road property owners.

Sal Coco, 47 Sprague Street Resident—Had issues with trash being thrown on to Sprague Street—he asked if signs could be placed in the area that read, “No Liter \$300 Fine”. He thought that signs will get people’s attention. Mr. Coco went on to say that he has picked up the trash in the neighborhood for fifty years and will no longer pick it up going forward.

Mr. Keegan informed Mr. Coco that signs are not as effective as everyone would like to think and signs also take away from the neighborhood. Mr. Keegan thought a better approach would be to make the neighbors aware of the issue and ask them to report violators. Mr. Coco commented that he would still like a sign.

Dan Saro, 139 Vincent Road Resident—Asked the status of the Sound Barrier and when the project would be complete on Vincent Road. Mr. Keegan informed him that Representative McMurtry could not make the meeting this evening to speak about State issues. Mr. Keegan asked Mr. Saro to place his concerns in writing and he will submit them to the State. Mr. Field added that he will call the State to find out the status of the project.

Jason Rand, 58 Fox Meadow Lane Resident—Mr. Rand had concerns with the condition of his road and sidewalks. He stated that they were falling apart. Mr. Rand’s chief complaint was the safety of the road and the fact that vehicles are speeding down the street—he mentioned several recent automobile accidents that have occurred on Fox Meadow Lane. Mr. Rand reminded the staff that Fox Meadow Lane is a cut through street. He suggested placing Robocop, signs, shaved speed bumps and a Police Detail to pull over offenders. Mr. Rand, once again, stated that this is a safety issue—the Town needs to step it up.

Resident, 69 Fox Meadow Lane added that two vehicles have hit the Telephone Pole. The neighbor also asked for signage (Three-Way Stop Sign at Indian Path); however, he prefers a Speed Bump. Resident went on to say that vehicles are travelling at a rate of 50/60 miles per hour. Resident felt that the present situation was not safe for walkers—he did not feel safe. Mr. Keegan informed him that he would speak with the Police Department relative to enforcement and also speak with the Department of Public Works to consider other options.

Kerry O’Connor, 451 Greenlodge Street Resident—Ms. O’Connor had concerns with the children in the neighborhood riding their Dirt Bikes and Dune Buggies through the streets, especially—Indian Path, Quarry Lane, Carol Drive and Greenlodge Street. Ms. O’Connor had a problem with these vehicles using the streets without a registration. Danielle Durgin, Trenton Road, informed all that she has the same problem relative to Dirt Bikes in her neighborhood.

Resident, Danielle Durgin, also had a problem with a drain located at the intersection of Beloit and Trenton Roads. Ms. Durgin informed Mr. Flanagan that the drain clogs up every time it rains. Mr. Flanagan stated that this area will be filmed in a few weeks to assess the pipe going forward.

Charles Papsadore, Savin Street Resident—Mr. Papsadore had issues with the parking situation on Etna Road. Mr. Papsadore informed all that when school is in session, parents of the school children park on both sides of the Savin Street and vehicles cannot travel down the street. Mr. Keegan informed him that this was an enforcement problem. Relative to this issue, Mr. Keegan asked Mr. Papsadore to inform the School Department for action. Chief D'Entremont added that Officer Pucci has looked into this matter and has issued tickets to the violators.

Jill Abbott, Quincy Avenue Resident—Asked Mr. Flanagan when her street will be paved. Mr. Flanagan commented that he hopes that the road work will be done by next week.

Peter Benson, Scott Circle Resident—Mr. Benson complimented the DPW/Engineering Departments for the Road Management Plan; however, he was disappointed that Fox Meadow Lane was not in plan this year given the deterioration of the road. It was Mr. Benson's hope that the street will be placed on the plan over the next few years. Mr. Field commented that the Fox Meadow Lane many come up next year and that he understood his concerns—Mr. Field suggested police presence on the street to monitor the speed. He also informed all that all that due to financing each year, the Engineering/DPW have to service the streets in the order listed on the Management Plan.

Ron Brock, Manor Resident—Mr. Brock stated that he did not believe "things" were being enforced or that people were accountable. Mr. Brock went on to speak about an under-age drinking party that the Dedham Police Department responded to in his neighborhood and also the Dirt Bike situation. Mr. Brock would like action taken, no more excuses and the problems in the neighborhood solved. Mr. Keegan responded that a lot gets done every day in Town. He went on to say that, at times, the perception is that the Town does not do enough. Mr. Brock believed Mr. Keegan's comments; however, he did not want the Town of Dedham to be compared in the negative with other towns.

Ted Goodwin, Scott Circle Resident—Mr. Goodwin had concerns with the rash of vehicle break-ins over the summer. Chief D'Entremont informed him that this is a problem in all communities—most of the vehicles involved were unlocked. Chief D'Entremont went on to say that Detectives Mahoney and Detective Walsh tracked a stolen item and made an arrest—the breaks have stopped after they were targeted. Mr. Goodwin complimented the new Trash Collection Program. He mentioned that there were neighbors who were placing their barrels out too early. Ms. Cardinale commented that she will send homeowners placing their barrels out too early the regulations.

Selectman Paul Reynolds commented that this forum is a good thing. He went on to say that the Selectmen and Department Heads are here this evening because all want to know the residents' concerns so that they can respond. Mr. Reynolds informed all that if residents call up the Town's Website and click the Fresh Ideas e-mail address, all five members of the Board of Selectmen will receive the e-mail at once. Mr. Reynolds asked that the residents use the Information Sheet handed out this evening and let them know of their concerns. Mr. Reynolds spoke briefly relative to the newly formed Neighborhood Groups—Oakdale Alliance and Manor Crime Watch.

James Maher, Sherman Road Resident—Mr. Maher informed all relative to the Manor Neighborhood Watch Group. Mr. Maher commented that the Dedham Police Department has been great, especially,

Detective Mahoney. Mr. Maher informed all that Detective Mahoney speaks to the residents on what they should look for in their observation. Additionally, Detective Mahoney has given him his cell phone number to allow residents the opportunity to call him if they see drug activity. Mr. Maher went on to say that the neighbors need to be vigilant, stay involved and report all activity--The objective is to keep the neighborhood free from drugs and criminal activities. Mr. Brock invited anyone interested in attending the Manor Crime Watch Meetings to provide him with their e-mail address and he will notify them with the dates and times.

The Manor Neighborhood Group meets monthly at the Endicott Estate every third Wednesday—all are invited. Mr. Keegan complimented the Manor Group's grass roots efforts and their success. Ms. MacDonald stated that drugs are a problem. She complimented the Town's great detectives. She informed the residents that their involvement is much needed. Ms. MacDonald discussed the need for a town-wide strategy to deal with this issue and that this is a committed goal of the Board of Selectmen.

Steve, Cynthia Road Resident—Resident asked why there was no yard waste pick up on certain weeks during the summer. Mr. Keegan responded that this change allows for the extension of yard waste pick-ups further into the fall when the need is greater.

Mary Laumann, 96 Ashcroft Street Resident—Ms. Laumann complained about the businesses located on Industrial Road, i.e., air and noise pollution and she cannot open her windows. Ms. Laumann informed all that the businesses have changed in this location and there is loud machinery, dust and tailgate banging (very loud). Ms. Laumann went on to say that she spoke with the property owner and he moved some of the businesses further away from the residences; unfortunately, it did not last long. Ms. Laumann commented that the businesses begin at 6:30/7:00 a.m. through late in the afternoon. Mr. Cimeno commented that the establishments are allowed to operate their businesses from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Myrna Weiner, Walters Avenue Resident—Ms. Weiner asked if the information on the Town's Website could be updated. She mentioned that the information is not current and difficult to find. Mr. Keegan informed her that he is aware of the problem--his staff is working toward improving on how the information can be found more easily.

Lori Vinacour, 19 Flintlocke Lane Resident—Ms. Vinacour asked if Legacy Place helped the Town of Dedham with taxes and revenue. Mr. Keegan informed all that some communities in the Commonwealth of lost much; however, the Town of Dedham was very lucky to gain in revenue due to Hebrew Senior Life and Legacy Place. He went on to say that the impact on the Town of Dedham was less due to both developments.

Mr. Maher suggested that the Department Heads discuss some of the big projects that they are working on at present.

\*\* Ms. O'Connell informed all that she is working on the PWED Application relative to Dedham Square. Additionally, she is coordinating a Business/Legal Clinic to be held at the Endicott Estate on September 27, 2010, between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.

\*\*Ms. Leventhal informed all that the Tai Chi Open House was very successful and that she is presently working on an important town-wide survey relative to the needs of the elders in the community.

\*\*Ms. LeClair informed all that she is working on a grant relative to the DCR Water Trail. She is also working on a road map for Green Communities Act and work to develop Bike Lanes.

\*\*Chief Cullinane informed all that he appointed a new Training Officer and hired two firefighters. He is working on new restrooms at the station and new software. Chief Cullinane went on to say that they are refurbishing Ladder One and working on the following: Mobile Data Terminals in vehicles, ESCO Project/new boiler at Main Station, Fire Drills in the Schools, Fire Department Study and also the increase of runs relative Legacy Place and Hebrew Senior Life.

\*\*Chief D'Entremont wanted to alert the residents to some recent scams, especially for seniors. He asked everyone to be aware, pay attention, watch the mail, phone calls, etc.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Joe Findlen, District 4 Chairman, commented that the Neighborhood Meetings brought the people out and that they were great idea. Additionally, Ms. MacDonald informed all that there will be a meeting relative to the Dedham 375th Anniversary Celebration at the Endicott Estate on October 5, 2010. She invited all to attend and asked for volunteers and assistance in planning this important event.

The Neighborhood Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

This is to certify that the above is a true and accurate record of the Minutes of Board of Selectmen's Neighborhood Meeting held on September 13, 2010; which Minutes were approved on March 17, 2011.

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Sarah E. MacDonald, Chairman